

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-5. Cancelled.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) Rubber mixtures comprising one or more hydroxyl group-containing rubbers polymerized in solution and synthesized from diolefins and vinyl aromatic monomers containing bound secondary hydroxyl groups in the range of 0.1 to 5wt.%, wherein said secondary hydroxyl groups are located no further than 4 carbon atoms away from the respective side chain end.

Claim 7. (Previously Presented) Rubber mixtures according to Claim 6, wherein said hydroxyl group-containing rubber or rubbers polymerized in solution have a content of polymerized vinyl aromatic in the range of 5 to 40 wt.% and a 1,2 vinyl content in the range of 5 to 60 wt.%.

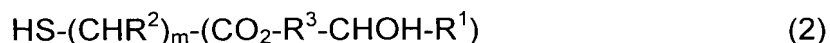
Claim 8. (Previously Presented) Rubber mixtures according to Claim 6, wherein styrene is used as a vinyl aromatic monomer.

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) Rubber mixtures according to Claim 6, wherein said diolefins are 1,3-butadiene or isoprene.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) Molded articles containing rubber mixtures which comprise one or more hydroxyl group-containing rubbers polymerized in solution and synthesized from diolefins and vinyl aromatic monomers containing bound secondary hydroxyl groups in the range of 0.1 to 5wt.%, wherein said secondary hydroxyl groups are located no further than 4 carbon atoms away from the respective side chain end.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) A molded article according to Claim 10, wherein said molded article is a tire tread.

Claim 12. (New) Rubber mixtures according to Claim 6, wherein said hydroxyl groups are introduced by adding hydroxyl mercaptans of the general formula (1), hydroxyl group containing mercaptocarboxylic acid esters of the general formula (2) or hydroxyl mercaptans of the general formula (3):



wherein

R^1 represents a C_1 to C_3 -alkyl group, which can optionally bear further hydroxyl groups

R^2 represents hydrogen, a C_1 to C_6 -alkyl group or a $-\text{CO}_2 - \text{R}^3 - \text{CHOH} - \text{R}^1$ group and

R^3 represents a linear, branched or cyclic C_2 to C_{36} -alkyl group which can optionally be substituted by up to 6 further hydroxyl groups or can be interrupted by nitrogen, oxygen or sulphur atoms,

OH represents a secondary hydroxyl group,

n, m independently from one another represents an integer from 1 to 7,

q represents an integer in the range of 3 to 4.

Claim 13. (New) Rubber mixtures according to Claim 12, wherein the hydroxyl mercaptans are selected from the group consisting of 1-mercapto-2-propanol, 1-mercapto-2-butanol, 1-mercapto-3-butanol, 1-mercapto-2-pentanol, 1-mercapto-2-hydroxy-cyclohexane and 1-mercaptopropanediol. 1-mercapto-2-propanol, 1-mercapto-2-butanol, 1-mercapto-2-hydroxy-cyclohexane and 1-mercaptopropanediol (thioglycerol).

Claim 14. (New) Rubber mixtures according to Claim 12, wherein the hydroxyl group-containing mercaptocarboxylic acid esters are selected from the group consisting of monoesters of mercapto acetic acid, mercapto propionic acid, mercapto butyric acid, mercapto succinic acid with 1,2-propylene glycol, 1,2- and 1,3-butylene

glycol, dipropylene glycol, tripropylene glycol, tetrapropylene glycol, glycerol, sorbitol and esters of 3-mercapto propionic acid.